



Wellsway School's Year 7 English Newsletter

Term 2: October- December 2023

This newsletter will help parents and carers both support and develop their children's reading, speaking and listening skills. It includes current class units (topics) and texts, signposts for support and ideas to challenge students further.

Whilst most students will follow the same order of units, some students may have more than one teacher so might study the units in an adapted order.

Year 7

Unit: Frankenstein (the play version by Phillip Pullman)

How can I support my child? Discuss these key topics:

- Is it ok to create a clone?
- What would you do if your friend was making the wrong choices?
- Judging someone based on their appearance: what effects can this have on the person being judged?

This play will give students the opportunity to explore the play version of Frankenstein. Students may act out parts of the play, analyse the language used, explore the history of the Victorians and their views towards religion and science. This is a great unit for students to explore a classic story in an engaging way!

How can I support my child in their literacy?

Use this link to help them revise how to use basic punctuation:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zr6bxyc/articles/zbwttrd#zbv7m390>

Read with them in the evening for 15-20 minutes:

They could read aloud to you or you could take turns reading a paragraph each.

If there is a challenging word or phrase, encourage them to decode it by spotting parts of the words they recognise or help them look up the definition and discuss it in the context of the sentence.

Activities to Enrich Understanding:

-Watch this TED talk:

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/everything-you-need-to-know-to-read-mary-shelley-s-frankenstein-iseult-gillespie>

-Join Mary Shelley and Lord Byron's spooky story crew and **write your own gothic story**. It could be about a monster, a creation of some kind or something else!

-Want to read more linking to Frankenstein?

<https://grasmerebulletjournal.wordpress.com/2018/10/19/ten-childrens-and-young-adult-books-inspired-by-frankenstein/>

-Create a fictional or non-fictional news report about a new invention.

Recommended Reads linked to Frankenstein:

- *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman
- *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
- *The Frankenstein Journals: I is for Eye* by Scott Sonneborn
- *Strange Star* by Emma Carroll

Reminder: Rising Stars is on every Wednesday from 3:05-4:00 in L16 for passionate, confident Key Stage 3 students!